International Application No. PCT/IB03/01752

Attorney Docket: SQUA3001/JEK

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 (Canceled)

12. (New) A coin holder comprising at least one through cylindrical seat, open at its

upper and bottom ends, having a diameter adapted to receive at its upper end a coin

to be received in the holder, within which is located, at a short distance (H) from the

bottom end of the cylindrical seat, an elastic element that elastically reduces the

effective diameter of the cylindrical seat and prevents coins received within said

cylindrical seat, inserted from the upper end thereof, to fall down through the cylindrical

seat without the intervention of an external force.

13. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein the diameter of the cylindrical

seat is selected to correspond with a diameter of multiple similar coins to be stacked in

the cylindrical seat, and wherein the number of coins that may be inserted within the

cylindrical seat varies in accordance with the height of the cylindrical seat.

14. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein the elastic element is an

annular ring housed inside a corresponding annular seat provided along an inner

surface of said cylindrical seat.

15. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein the resistance provided by

the elastic element may be overcome by exercising a slight pressure on a top coin of

a stack of coins received in the cylindrical seat, such that the release of the coin that is

located at the bottom of the stack is effected.

16. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein the distance (H) of the elastic

element from the bottom of the cylindrical seat is substantially equal to the thickness of

a coin to be received the cylindrical seat.

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17. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein the elastic element comprises a radially inwardly projecting protrusion obtained by moulding of the material of the annular seat.

- 18. (New) The coin holder according to claim 17, wherein said protrusion comprises a tab or lip overhanging inwardly and slightly sloping downwards within the cylindrical seat, displaceable from a completely overhanging position located towards the inside of the cylindrical seat to a retracted position within a wall of the cylindrical seat formed within the thickness of the cylindrical seat.
- 19. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, including a plurality of laterally connected cylindrical seats of varying size arranged in a pattern.
- 20. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein in order to avoid the accidental release of a coin from the cylindrical seat upper end, when the coin holder is tilted or turned upside down the upper end is provided with a stop elastic element that prevents a coin, once it is inserted into the cylindrical seat through the upper end, to fall through said upper end.
- 21. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein the elastic element is located between an upper ledge of an annular recess in an inner wall of the cylindrical seat formed by reducing the thickness of an area of the cylindrical seat from the bottom of the cylindrical seat to the upper ledge, and a lower fixing ring inserted in said reduced thickness area partly up to said upper ledge.
- 22. (New) The coin holder according to claim 12, wherein said elastic element comprises an elastic o-ring.